

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6-18 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please amend claim 1 as set forth below.

5 1. (Currently Amended) A data storage system, comprising:
a first network storage controller (NSC) including a processor and
associated non-volatile memory divided into a primary memory segment and
a mirror memory segment;
a second NSC including a processor and associated non-volatile
10 memory divided into a primary memory segment and a mirror memory
segment;
at least one FCAL connected to the first NSC and the second NSC;
a plurality of storage devices connected to the FCAL;
a point-to-point communication link between the first NSC and the
15 second NSC;
wherein the primary memory in the first NSC and the mirror memory
in the second NSC are allocated in corresponding blocks[.]; and
wherein the NSCs reserve positions for command-response data in
the data flow on the point-to-point communication link.

20 2. (Original) The data storage system of claim 1, wherein the primary
memory in the second NSC and the mirror memory in the first NSC are
allocated in corresponding blocks.

25 3. (Original) The data storage system of claim 1, wherein command-
response data is transmitted between the first NSC and the second NSC in
one or more named resources.

4. (Original) The data storage system of claim 1, wherein data
30 transmitted as a result of a write I/O operation directed by the first NSC is
mirrored in the mirror memory of the second NSC.

5. (Original) The data storage system of claim 1, wherein data transmitted as a result of a write I/O operation directed by the second NSC is mirrored in the mirror memory of the first NSC.

5 6-18. Canceled.